



KEWAUNEE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

Jennifer Schneider
Tourism Coordinator/Public Information Officer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 16, 2016

Kewaunee County Recognized for Taking Action to Protect Drug Endangered Children

KEWAUNEE, WI – Kewaunee County is being recognized by the Wisconsin Alliance for Drug Endangered Children (DEC) for developing a DEC program that helps children who have been exposed to illegal drugs and/or may be at risk for abuse and neglect.

The Wisconsin Alliance for Drug Endangered Children defines a DEC program as an organized effort that responds to the immediate needs of drug endangered children, while working to convict those who have put them at risk. The group involved in the effort typically includes, law enforcement, prosecutors, probation and parole, human services, health departments, schools, treatment centers and community members.

Kewaunee County has numerous community partners involved in developing its DEC program says Kewaunee County Department of Human Services Director, Robert Mattice, "Kudos to my staff at Kewaunee County Department of Human Services, Kewaunee County Department of Public Health, Kewaunee County Corporation Counsel, probation and parole, law enforcement and school districts in Kewaunee County for working together to make this happen."

Kewaunee County is following DEC protocol that includes alerting schools when law enforcement has contact with a family for any reason, but not releasing specific information regarding the circumstance. Instead, school officials are notified that a specific child or certain children may need some additional support in the coming days.

Mattice believes that change starts with collaboration between all the providers or systems that an individual or family may interact with, "We work with a family to pull together both the formal and informal supports and help the family reach their best functioning level," said Mattice.

According to the Wisconsin Alliance for Drug Endangered Children, there are now more than 50 DEC programs in the state.

For more information about this initiative, visit <http://www.wisconsindec.org/>

###



Front Row: Jeff Anderson First Assistant U.S. Attorney, Officer Robin Mueller, Kewaunee Police Department, Lori Nellis, Social Worker, Kewaunee Department of Human Services, Corinne Konkol, Children and Families Manager, Kewaunee County Department of Human Services, Attorney Jeffrey Wisnicky, Corporation Counsel, Kewaunee County, Cindy Giese, Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation

Back Row: John Elliot, Deputy Administrator, Wisconsin Department of Children & Families, Robert Mattice, Director, Kewaunee County Department of Human Services, Jody Wormet, Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation

Members Not Pictured: Lt. Jason Veaser, Kewaunee County Sheriff's Department, Cindy Kinnard, Director, Kewaunee County Public Health, Tammy Prucha, School Counselor, Kewaunee School District, Kasie Holloway, School Counselor, Algoma School District, Parish Webster, School Counselor, Luxemburg-Casco School District, Luxemburg Police Department, Kristina Konop, Probation Agent, Wisconsin Department of Corrections – Kewaunee

CONTACT:

Jennifer Schneider

Tourism Coordinator/Public Information Officer, Kewaunee County

Office: 920-388-0567

Email: schneiderj@kewauneco.org

-or-

Robert Mattice

Director, Kewaunee County Health and Human Services

Office: 920-388-7030

Email: matticer@kewauneco.org

Kewaunee County
810 Lincoln Street
Kewaunee, WI 54216

PHONE (920) 388-7164
FAX (920) 388-7101
WEB SITE <http://www.kewauneco.org>

Kewaunee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer